

Amendments to the Specification:

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 8 to read as follows:

FIG. 2 is a side perspective view of one embodiment of the domed transfer chamber lid having an attachment convex to the vacuum and a window.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 to read as follows:

FIG. 3 is a side perspective view of another embodiment of the domed transfer chamber lid having an attachment convex to the vacuum with no window.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 12 to read as follows:

FIG. 4 is a side perspective view of another embodiment of the domed transfer chamber lid having an attachment concave to the vacuum and a window.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 14 to read as follows:

FIG. 5 is a side perspective view of another embodiment of the domed transfer chamber lid having an attachment concave to the vacuum with no window.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 16 to read as follows:

FIG. 6 is a closer perspective view of an "S" transition of a preferred embodiment of the domed transfer chamber lid of the invention.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 18 to read as follows:

FIG. 7 is a side perspective view of a domed transfer chamber lid having two substrate center finders.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20 to read as follows:

FIG. 8 is a bottom perspective view of a domed transfer chamber lid having two substrate center finders.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 1 to read as follows:

FIGS. 2 and 3 illustrates side perspective views of the domed lid 103 of the invention having a convex attachment to the transfer chamber 118. The domed lid 103 is placed on the transfer chamber 118 in a manner that allows access to the vacuum robot and effector blade 120 as well as to the slit valve through a door opening 122, but reduces

the volume of the transfer chamber 118 as compared with conventional flat transfer chamber lids. This increases the efficiency of the vacuum processing system and reduces the possibility of contamination of the substrate by reducing exposure to microparticulate contamination. The volume of the transfer chamber 118 added by the transfer chamber lid 103 is decreased by 50% relative to the volume added by a conventional, flat lid of the same diameter.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 20 to read as follows:

FIG. 3 is a side perspective view of a domed transfer chamber lid 103 having a placement convex to the vacuum with no window. This embodiment results in a decreased volume compared with that illustrated in FIG. 2, and thus may be preferable for certain uses, such as the processing of very large substrates.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 24 to read as follows:

FIGS. 4 and 5 show a side perspective view of a domed transfer chamber lid 103 having an attachment concave to the transfer chamber 118, with and without a window 124, respectively. This embodiment does not inherently decrease the volume of the transfer chamber 118, as the convex attachment does, but it allows for more space within the top of the transfer chamber 118. Thus, if it is desirable to attach a diagnostic or processing mechanism internally at the center of the transfer chamber lid 118, this placement would allow for extra space at the center without requiring extra space at the sides as would a conventional, flat transfer chamber lid. Thus, this embodiment would allow for more room internally at the center of the chamber without requiring extension of the height to the side attachment site of the lid.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 34 to read as follows:

The domed lid of the invention is preferably provided on the transfer chamber in a manner that minimizes the movement of the transfer chamber lid in response to the stresses of use, e.g., the tendency of the flange to lift off the o-ring (not shown) when a plate is loaded. The feature that reduces the response to stress can be a structural feature that is part of the lid itself, a modification of the placement of the lid (e.g., placement of the o-ring seal of the attachment site 126 closer to the chamber) or a combination thereof. In a preferred embodiment, the domed lid of the invention is constructed to possess a structural feature 128 in the dome itself with the ability to absorb the additional stress to the domed lid during use of the vacuum processing system, and more preferably the

structural feature is a small variation in the structure near the edge of the lid, e.g., an "S" transition between the flat o-ring sealing surface and the domed lid. Other structural variations that provide for sacrificial compliance for the purpose of preventing unwanted distortion can also be used, as will be apparent to one skilled in the art upon reading the present disclosure. This structural feature allows a single domed lid to be attached to the transfer chamber in either a convex or a concave placement without interference of the stresses of use of the chamber.

Please AMEND the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 36 to read as follows:

FIG. 7 is a side perspective view, and FIG. 8 a bottom perspective view, of a domed transfer chamber lid 103 having two substrate center finders 130 integrated into the domed portion of the lid. The center finders are used as exemplary mechanisms that could be attached to or into the transfer chamber lid, as would be apparent to one in the art upon reading the instant disclosure. FIG. 7 shows the addition of a substrate center finder 130 disposed in the transfer chamber lid 103. The transfer chamber lid 103 is shown with four substrate center finders 130, which are used to determine substrate position within the system.